

International Women's Day Celebration

*Sponsored by the Fogarty International Center and
the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health*

Panel Discussion

International Women Scientists at NIH: Their Research and Career Paths

Tuesday, March 8, 2005
4:00-5:30 p.m.

Wilson Hall, Building 1
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland

4:00-4:05 p.m.

Welcome

Sharon Hrynkow, Acting Director, Fogarty International Center

4:05 – 4:10 p.m.

Opening Remarks

Elias A. Zerhouni, Director, National Institutes of Health

*Panel Moderated by Karen Hofman, Director, Division of Advanced Studies and Policy
Analysis, Fogarty International Center*

4:10-4:30 p.m.

Perspectives from a Tenured Senior Investigator

Grace Yeh, Chief, Cellular Defense and Carcinogenesis
Section, Laboratory of Metabolism, National Cancer Institute

4:30-4:50 p.m.

Perspectives from a Tenure Track Investigator

Maria Morasso, Principal Investigator, Developmental Skin
Biology Unit, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal
and Skin Diseases

4:50-5:10 p.m.

Perspectives from a Postdoctoral Visiting Fellow

Linda Peters, Research Fellow, Laboratory of Molecular Genetics,
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication
Disorders

5:10-5:30 p.m.

Discussion and Closing

Vivian Pinn, Director, NIH Office of Research on Women's
Health

Reception to follow

Dr. Grace Chao Yeh

(NCI Tenured Principle Investigator) - Dr. Yeh is Chief of the Cellular Defense and Carcinogenesis Section, Laboratory of Metabolism, NCI. Her research is focused on discovering the molecular targets of chemopreventive dietary components in fruits and vegetables, particularly in their protective effect against breast and lung cancers. Dr. Yeh completed her undergraduate education in Taiwan and her PhD at the University of Maryland at College Park and has been at NCI for most of her career. Her seminal discovery that dietary components inhibit activation of environmental carcinogens is an important advance in chemoprevention research. She has worked with Joan Schwartz over the years and has been a part of the Women Scientist Advisers (WSA) at NIH. She will share with you her career interests and development and also the accomplishments of WSA of NIH.

Dr. Maria Morasso

(NIAMS Tenure-track Investigator) - Currently working as Principal Investigator in the Developmental Skin Biology Unit at NIAMS. She is a developmental biologist by training and received her PhD in Venezuela. Her current research focus is on epidermal differentiation. She began her career at NIH in 1991 as a postdoc at NICHD and is now the only female-tenure track investigator at NIAMS. She has had a positive experience at NIH and will discuss the importance of mentoring throughout her NIH career. She maintains contact with researchers in Venezuela.

Dr. Linda Peters

(NIDCD Postdoctoral Visiting Fellow) - Currently working in the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics at NIDCD under Dr. Thomas Friedman. She received her PhD in New Zealand and began her first postdoc in the United States in 2000. Her specialty is genetics of hearing loss. She hopes to return to her home country in the near future and has found her NIH experience extremely rewarding; especially the mentoring she has received from Dr. Friedman. The level of funding and the potential to meet and network with researchers at the top of her field has been unparalleled. Her experience at NIH has made her much more comfortable with sharing her research and networking with others. Mentoring has been a large part of her success at NIH and will aid her re-entry into a research career in New Zealand.